

Capsule Summary
SM-576
Redgate Gas Station and House
Redgate
Private

c. 1910s

The Redgate Gas Station and House, located on the south side of Maryland Route 5, in Redgate, St. Mary's County, Maryland, represent rare examples of Mission-style architecture in Southern Maryland (Our Lady's Chapel at Medley's Neck(SM-65), designed by Washington, D. C. architect Leon Dessez, represents the other documented example.). Erected in the 1910s during the ownership of John P. and Francis I. Wilkinson, the one story, stucco covered buildings served as a precedent for modern day strip-development. Choosing an architecture that was not indigenous to the area, the Wilkinsons' buildings would have seemed undoubtedly curious to passing motorists and probably spurred commercial activity as a result. The stucco covered, one story store featured a curvilinear false parapet and three bays each decorated with a jack arch. Paint evidence suggests that the building would have originally been painted a pink or fuchsia color. The dwelling, meanwhile, featured an arcaded front porch and a distinctive interior fireplace constructed of exposed stone and exhibiting a large semicircular niche or mantle.

While the reasons for the Wilkinsons' choice in building-style remain unclear, the buildings reflect the availability of non-indigenous architectural styles to residents of southern Maryland during the early-twentieth century. This increased availability greatly extended the possibilities of architectural fashion as well as easy commercial recognition. Both buildings are scheduled for demolition in April of 1997 to make way for a new residential subdivision called "Redgate Estates."

SM-576, Redgate Gas Station and House
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period:

Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme:

Commerce
Architecture

Resource Type

Category:

Structure

Historic Environment:

Rural

Historic Function and Use:

Store, Gas Station, Dwelling

Known Design Source:

None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-576

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Redgate Gas Station and House

2. Location

street & number 1.5 miles S of intersection of Fairgrounds Road & Route 5 on the W side of Route 5 not for publication

city, town Leonardtown x vicinity of congressional district 3

state Maryland county St. Mary's TM 49, P 43

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture <u> </u> museum
<u> </u> x building(s)	<u> </u> x private	<u> </u> x unoccupied	<u> </u> x commercial <u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational <u> </u> x private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment <u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> x yes: restricted	<u> </u> government <u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial <u> </u> transportation
	<u> </u> x not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military <u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name The Robfor Corporation (POC: Ford Dean)

street & number PO Box 10 telephone no.: 301-884-0387

city, town Hollywood state and zip code Md 20636

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber EWA 1042

street & number folio 231

city, town Leonardtown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. SM-576

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☒ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resourc Count: 2

The Redgate Gas Station and House is located on the southwest side of Route 5 just south of Moll Dyer Run. Oriented on an east-west axis, the house and station are situated in close proximity to the road but are otherwise surrounded by 62 acres of cultivated fields and woodlands. Both the house and store have deteriorated beyond repair. Both buildings will be demolished in April of 1997 to make way for a residential development called "Redgate Estates."

The dwelling is a one-and-a-half story, five bay concrete block and frame, Mission-Style house with two gable end wings and several rear shed additions. Erected in the first quarter of the twentieth century, the house's foundation and walls are covered with stucco applied to either large aggregate concrete block, wooden lathe, as well as clapboard. The window and door openings are then framed into the concrete block. The gable roof, covered with asphalt shingles, is framed with circular sawn common rafters. Each rafter pair exhibits a butt joint at the roof's peak. A centrally located, interior, brick chimney flue extends from the middle of the roof.

The primary or east elevation features the original central section of the house flanked on either side by a one story wing--each of these sections are united by an sceened-in arcaded porch. The entire elevation is covered with stucco that has been decoratively scored in a circular motion with a trowel. Differences in the trowel marks, however, indicate that the north wing was added later to the central section. The central section currently features two sets of paired six-over-six windows. A large patch marks the location of another door that was covered over with the addition of the north wing. The north wing currently contains the only entry on the entire elevation. This door is flanked by a six-over-six, double-hung sash window (now broken out). The south wing features a single window.

The south elevation features the gable ends of the wing and main section as well as the side of the rear shed addition. This elevation as well as the west and north elevations, did not receive any decorative trowel marks. The wing features a doorway, while the attic story of the main section features a one-over-one window. The side of the rear shed roof addition features a doorway and window--both now removed.

The west elevation exhibits three shed roof projections from the main section of the house. The southern shed roof addition features a single window. The shed roof projection from the main section displays a single doorway as well as a brick chimney flue that extends from its shed roof. The north addition to the north wing, constructed of a circular sawn frame sheathed with clapboard has a one-over-one window.

The north elevation exhibits a large exterior end chimney flanked on either side by a one-over-one window. The gable end of the dwelling's middle section features a one-over-one window that lights the attic story.

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-576

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☒ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Redgate Gas Station and House, located on the south side of Maryland Route 5, in Redgate, St. Mary's County, Maryland, represent rare examples of Mission-style architecture in Southern Maryland (Our Lady's Chapel (SM-65) being the other documented example). Probably constructed in the 1910s during the ownership of John P. and Francis I. Wilkinson, the buildings served as a precedent for modern day strip-development. Choosing an architecture that was not indigenous to the area, the Wilkinsons' roadside buildings would have been very curious to passing motorists and probably spurred commercial activity as a result. While the reasons for their choice in building-style remains unclear, the buildings reflect the availability of non-indigenous architectural styles to residents of southern Maryland during the early-twentieth century. This availability greatly extended the possibilities of architectural taste as well as commercial recognition.

On December 7, 1909, John P. and Francis I. Wilkinson purchased a 68 acre tract named "Piles Woodland" from Andrew J. and Nettie E. Mattingly. Soon after the transaction, the couple probably erected the Mission-style dwelling and store. In 1919, the Wilkinsons transferred the property to J. Philip Greenwell who immediately sold the property to Mary E. Cullins. The dwelling and store stayed in the Cullins family until 1942 when the property was transferred through a number of different owners until 1949 when it was sold to Richard T. Pitt. According to Mrs. Margaret Coombs who rented the house in the late-1960s, Mr. Pitt owned a fuel oil and kerosene business. John Coombs remembers the store sold general merchandise, served as a vegetable stand, and may have been a gas station at one time as well. The heirs of Richard Pitt owned the dwelling and store until 1978. Both buildings are scheduled for demolition in May of 1997 to make way for a new residential development called "Redgate Estates."

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-576

Becky Proffit, interview, February, 1997.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 62 acresQuadrangle name Hollywood, MdQuadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting					Northing			

B

Zone	Easting					Northing			

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County Planning and Zoningdate April, 1997street & number 22740 Washington Streettelephone 301-475-4662city or town Leonardtownstate Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2020
514-7600

SM-576, The Redgate Gas Station and House
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

The dwelling's interior exhibits an irregular plan. The north wing represents the most elaborate room. It features an exposed stone fireplace with a semicircular niche carved out above the bricklined fireplace. The windows, door jambs, and baseboards all feature grained trim. The ceiling joists of this section are reused hewn timbers from an earlier building. This room also features a doorway to a bathroom as well as an archway into the next decorated space located in the main section. This second main room features a stove flue, grained window surrounds and baseboard, as well as a trap door located near the juncture of the main section and north wing. According to Becky Proffitt, this trap door was used to hide liquor during the days of prohibition. This second decorated room also permits entry to a rear shed addition as well as two small rooms to the south. The room facing the road features a coved ceiling sheathed with beaded matchstick. The west facing room features a narrow stair to the second floor which contains a hall and bedroom. To the south of these two rooms is the south wing. The wing served as the kitchen and pantry. The walls are partially sheathed with faux tile linoleum.

The old store and gas station, a one story, gable front, three bay, concrete block and frame, Mission-style commercial building with a one story, two bay wing, is located about thirty feet to the north of the dwelling. Erected contemporary to the dwelling, the store exhibits similar construction methods and architectural finishes. The foundation and walls are covered with stucco applied to wooden lathe. The lathe is attached to large aggregate concrete blocks laid in regular rows using a portland cement. The window and door openings are then framed into the concrete block.

The main section's primary or east elevation features a door flanked on either side by a six-over-six window (now broken). Each bay exhibits a projecting surround. The door, however, is emphasized by a brick, jack arch lintel. To the north and south of the windows is a vertically attenuated niche with a semicircular top. The elevation's two corners feature projecting square columns that are decorated with a circular accent and capped with a brick top. Between these two columns is a curvi-linear Spanish mission-style false parapet that is also capped with brick. The one story wing exhibits a door and window with similar projecting surrounds. The wing features a horizontal false parapet.

The south elevation consists of the main section and a rear shed addition. The main section features a single window. The corners of the main section feature projecting square columns. These columns are similar to the those found on the east elevation but do not feature circular accents. The rear shed addition features a single window.

The west or rear elevation features two shed additions. The south shed addition features a window while the north shed addition features a single door. The roof of both additions is covered with asphalt shingles. This roof is pierced by a single brick chimney flue. The shallow gable roof of the main section, hidden behind the false parapet located on the south elevation, is also visible.

The north elevation does not feature any openings.

— SM-576, The Redgate Gas Station and House
St. Mary's County
7.2 Description

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The interior is divided into four spaces. The primary commercial space is located in the main section. Entered through the door located on the east side, this space exhibits several decorative finishes and architectural provisions for customer service. The west wall of this space, for instance, features several shelves, the ceiling exhibits evidence of a circular fresco or painting around the lighting fixture, and the north wall features a window or counter that connects the main section to the north wing. The north wing consists of one room. This room could also be served by a counter that connects the north wing with the north rear shed addition. This north rear shed addition is also connected to the south shed addition which was used primarily for storage.

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— SM-576, Redgate Gas Station and House
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain-of-Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's County Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber EWA 1042, Folio 231

Grantee: The Robfor Corporation

Grantor: Richard Rollison, Vivian DeVine and Lillian V. Winkopp

Date: March 27, 1996

Notes: The Robfor Corporation, a real estate developer, purchased the 70.526 acre property for \$114,000.

Reference: Liber MRB 72, Folio 93

Grantee: Lillian V. Winkopp and Elizabeth McGuire (who eventually deeded her 1/2 interest in Liber MRB 91, Folio 359)

Grantor: William O. and Lillian Viola Winkopp, personal representatives of the Maybelle V. Boone Estate

Date: May, 1980

Notes: The property, called "Piles Woodland" is described as containing 68 acres and located near Redgate. Maybelle V. Boone on November 16, 1978 after her husband Fred died on January 4, 1978.

— Reference: Liber CBG 30, Folio 12

Grantee: Fred and Maybelle V. Boone

Grantor: Richard T. Pitt, et ux

Date: March 28, 1951

Reference: Liber CBG 20, Folio 430

Grantee: Richard T. Pitt, et ux

Grantor: Ray N. Flaherty, et ux

Date: November 19, 1949

Reference: Liber CBG 20, Folio 430

Grantee: Henry W. and Delorene Wood

Grantor: Ray N. and Ella Mae Flaherty

Date: November 19, 1949

Reference: Liber CBG 14, Folio 38

Grantee: Ray N. and Ella Mae Flaherty

Grantor: Claude G. Cullins, et ux

Date: November 12, 1942

Reference: Liber EBA 20, Folio 83

Grantee: Claude G. Cullins

Grantor: George H. Cullins et al

Date: May 26, 1921

— SM-576, Redgate Gas Station and House
St. Mary's County
8.2 Significance

Reference: Liber JMM 9, Folio 91
Grantee: Claude G. Cullins of Washington, DC
Grantor: Thomas C. Cullins, et al
Date: July 31, 1931

Reference: Liber EBA 20, Folio 83
Grantee: Thomas C. Cullins, et al
Grantor: George H. Cullins
Date: May 26, 1921
Notes: Mary C. Cullins died leaving George H. Cullins, John A. Cullins, William R. Cullins, Eva Gass, Ella Gass, Irene Palmer, Mignonette Bailey, and Bernard L. Cullins the 68 acre property called "Piles Woodland."

Reference: Liber EBA 18, Folio 333
Grantee: Mary E. Cullins
Grantor: J. Philip Greenwell--widower
Date: September 26, 1919

Reference: Liber EBA 18, Folio 174
Grantee: J. Philip Greenwell
Grantor: John P. and Francis I. Wilkinson
Date: June 25, 1919

Reference: Liber EBA 8, Folio 228
Grantee: John P. and Francis I. Wilkinson
Grantor: Andrew J. and Nettie E. Mattingly
Date: December 7, 1909
Notes: It was probably some time after this deed that the dwelling and store were constructed.

Reference: Liber EBA 6, Folio 146
Grantee: Andrew J. and Nettie E. Mattingly
Grantor: William F. Abell
Date: August 24, 1906

Reference: Liber JFF 13, Folio 496-497
Grantee: William F. Abell
Grantor: French M. and Hannah G. Abell
Date: December 5, 1892

Reference: Liber JFF 4, Folio 132-133
Grantee: French M. and Hannah G. Abell
Grantor: Ann E. Gough
Date: March 15, 1880
Notes: The Abells purchase the property for \$1100. Ann Gough, however, reserves a right-of-way to her land.

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11-576

Redgate Gas Station + House

+ Mary's County, MD

Kirk Ranzetta

11/11/97

11/11/97

N. elkhorn, House

11/11/97



M-576

Belgate Gas Station + House
St. Mary's County, Md

Rick Parzetta

March, 1997

KFO

N + W elevation, house

2 of 7



SM-596

Fedgate Gas Station & House

Mag's Laundry Rd

Kirk Road

March, 1997

SHPO

looking N, house

7



SM-576

Redgate Gas Station + House
in Madison County, Md
Rick Ruppert

March 1977

Red CHPO

Elevation 1000 feet

4 of 7



SM-576

Redgate bus Station + House
+ Mary's Laundry, Md.

Kirk Ronzetta

March, 1997

Ed. SHPO

Ed + Kirk Ronzetta, gas station

5 of 7



M-576

Redgate Gas Station & House

St. Mary's County, Md

W. K. Ranzetta

March 1997

11 - 40

N + E elevations, gas station

2 of 7



SM-576

Redgate Gas Station + House

Mary's County, Md

R. Rancette

March 1997

Ad - HPO

Wednesday 11 Jan

7 & 7